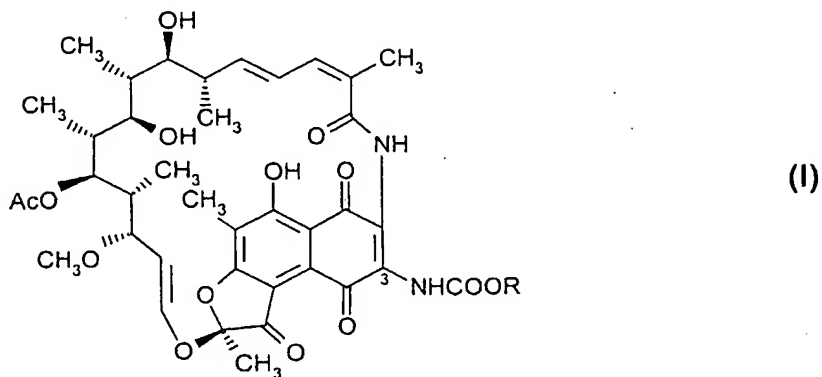


Claims

1. N-(3-rifamycinyl)-carbamates of the formula I

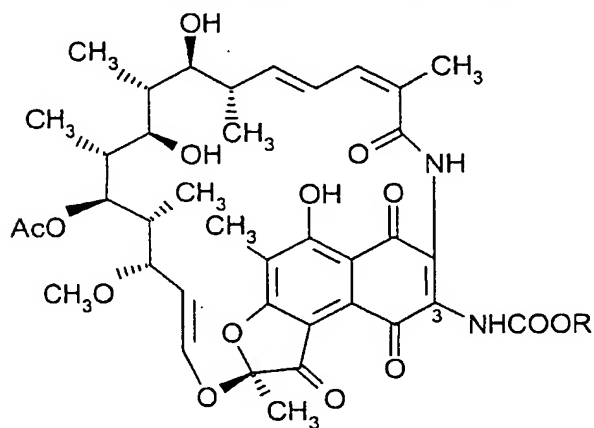


and their corresponding hydroquinones,

wherein R is C₁-C₆-alkyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkenyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkenyl, triphenylphosphonio-C₁-C₆-alkyl halogenide, menthyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, piperidyl, or aryl which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the following groups independently comprising nitro, C₁-C₃-alkoxy, C₁-C₃-alkylthio, C₁-C₃-alkoxycarbonyl, di(C₁-C₃-alkylamino), halogen or salts thereof.

2. Carbamates of claim 1, wherein R is C₁-C₄-alkyl, preferably methyl, ethyl, butyl or isobutyl.
3. Carbamates of claim 1, wherein R is mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₄-alkyl, preferably chloromethyl, 2-chloroethyl, 2-bromoethyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethyl or 2,2,2-trichlor-tert-butyl.
4. Carbamates of claim 1, wherein R is C₁-C₃-alkenyl, preferably vinyl or allyl.
5. Carbamates of claim 1, wherein R is unsubstituted aryl, preferably benzyl or phenyl.

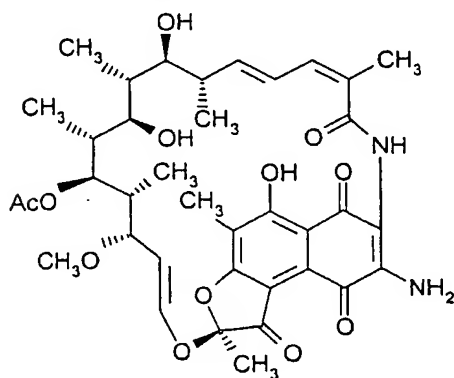
6. Carbamates of claim 1, wherein
R is 4-Nitrobenzyl, 4-Nitrophenyl, 4-methoxycarbonyl phenyl, or 6-nitroveratryl.
7. A method of preparing a N-(3-rifamycinyl)-carbamate according to formula I



(I)

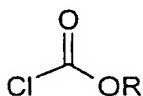
and their corresponding hydroquinones,
wherein R is C₁-C₆-alkyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkenyl,
mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkenyl, triphenylphosphonio-C₁-C₆-alkyl
halogenide, menthyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, piperidyl, or aryl which may be
unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the following groups
independently comprising nitro, C₁-C₃-alkoxy, C₁-C₃-alkylthio, C₁-C₃-
alkoxycarbonyl, di(C₁-C₃-alkylamino), halogen

characterized in that 3-amino rifamycin S of formula II



(II)

is reacted with a chloroformate of formula III



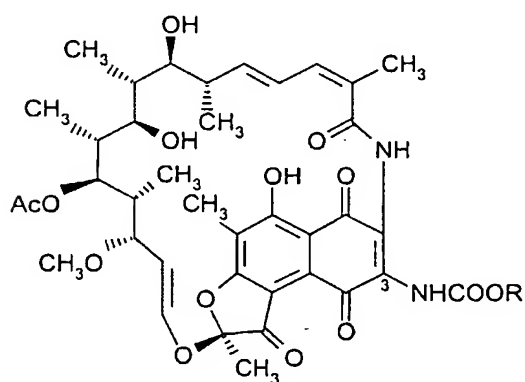
(III)

wherein R has the above meanings,
in an organic solvent in the presence of a strong base, and optionally the
obtained quinone compound of formula I is reduced to give the corresponding
hydroquinone.

8. The method according to claim 7,
characterized in that
as a strong base a tertiary amine, preferably triethylamine is used.
9. The method according to claim 7,
characterized in that
as organic solvent dichloromethane, ethylacetate or tetrahydrofuran is used.
10. Use of N-(3-rifamycinyl)-carbamates of formula I of claim 1 for treating or
preventing a mycobacterial infection.
11. Use of N-(3-rifamycinyl)-carbamates of formula I of claim 1 for the production
of a pharmaceutical preparation for treating or preventing a mycobacterial
infection.
12. Use of compounds according to claim 10 for treating or preventing
tuberculosis.
13. Use of compounds according to claim 11 for the production of a
pharmaceutical preparation for treating and preventing tuberculosis.
14. Use of N-(3-rifamycinyl) carbamates of formula I of claim 1 for the production
of a pharmaceutical preparation for treating or preventing a microbial infection
with ordinary (non-mycobacterial) bacteria, preferably *Bacillus subtilis*,

Escherichia coli, *Bacillus mycoides*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and/or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

15. Use of N-(3-rifamycinyl) carbamates of formula I of claim 1 for treating or preventing a microbial infection with ordinary (non-mycobacterial) bacteria, preferably *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus mycoides*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and/or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.
16. A composition for treating or preventing a mycobacterial infection and/or a microbial infection with ordinary (non-mycobacterial) bacteria comprising an anti-mycobacterial and/or anti-bacterial effective amount of a compound of formula I



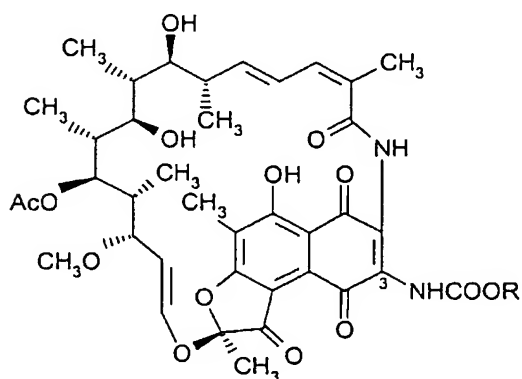
or its corresponding hydroquinone,

wherein R is C₁-C₆-alkyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkenyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkenyl, triphenylphosphonio-C₁-C₆-alkyl halogenide, menthyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, piperidyl, or aryl which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the following groups independently comprising nitro, C₁-C₃-alkoxy, C₁-C₃-alkylthio, C₁-C₃-alkoxycarbonyl, di(C₁-C₃-alkylamino), halogen

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefore.

17. A composition according to claim 16 comprising from about 0.05 mg to about 1000 mg, preferably from about 0.1 mg to about 500 mg, especially preferred from about 1 mg to about 200 mg of the compound according to formula I.
18. A method for preventing or treating a mycobacterial infection and/or a microbial infection with ordinary (non-mycobacterial) bacteria in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal in need of anti-mycobacterial and/or anti-bacterial prevention or treatment an effective anti-mycobacterial and/or antibacterial amount of at least one compound of formula I



or its corresponding hydroquinone,

wherein R is C₁-C₆-alkyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkenyl, mono- or polyhalogenated C₁-C₆-alkenyl, triphenylphosphonio-C₁-C₆-alkyl halogenide, menthyl, 9-fluorenylmethyl, piperidyl, or aryl which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the following groups independently comprising nitro, C₁-C₃-alkoxy, C₁-C₃-alkylthio, C₁-C₃-alkoxycarbonyl, di(C₁-C₃-alkylamino), halogen

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefore.